

PTO/SB/08A (AW 4/25/03) (04-03)
Approved for use through 04/30/2004. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for Form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 2

Complete if Known

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Application Number | 09/691,298 |
|--------------------|------------|

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Filing Date | October 18, 2000 |
|--------------------|-------------------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| First Named Inventor | Junji Yoshida et al. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|

| | |
|----------|------|
| Art Unit | 2665 |
|----------|------|

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket No.

~~H.D.V.~~ Alpous H. Hsu

MTS-3217US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**Examiner
Signature**

Alpus H. Hsu

Date Considered

9/26/04

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

*Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

*Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Application Number | 09/691,298 |
| Filing Date | October 18, 2000 |
| First Named Inventor | Junji Yoshida et al. |
| Art Unit | 2665 |
| Examiner Name | Heidi Alpus H. Hsu |
| Attorney Docket No. | MTS-3217US |

SHEET 2 of 2

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|

European Search Report for EP 00 12 2874, dated September 5, 2003.

~~JUL 08 2004~~

Technology Center 2600

Alpus H. Hsun

Date Considered

9/26/04

*EXAMINER: Initials considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Indicate on this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.